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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/584,935	05/31/2000	Marcos N. Novaes	POU9-2000-0007-US1	5026

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EXAMINER	
WON, YOUNG N	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	7

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/584,935	NOVAES ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Young N Won	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *31 May 2000* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 4-71* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 4-71* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *4 & 5* .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 and 4-71 have been examined and are pending with this action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1, 4, 20, 25-26, 42, 47, 50-51, and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Short et al. (US 6178529 B1).

INDEPENDENT:

As per claims 1, 25, and 50, Short teaches a method, a system (see title), and at least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method (see col.2, lines 40-42 and col.3, lines 28-32), of managing (see col.1, lines 11-13 and col.4, lines 36-37) identifiers of components of a distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-59), said method comprising: providing, by an operating system instance of said distributed computing environment (see col.2, lines 51-56), a unique identifier of a component of said distributed computing environment to a cluster of said distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-65); and automatically managing by the cluster said unique identifier (see Fig.3, #70 and col.6, lines 46-50).

As per claim 47, Short teaches a system (see title) of managing (see col.1, lines 11-13 and col.4, lines 36-37) identifiers of components of a distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-59), said system comprising: an operating system instance of said distributed computing environment (see col.2, lines 51-56) to provide a unique identifier of a component of said distributed computing environment to a cluster of said distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-65); and a distributed configuration manager (see Fig.3, #72, 74, 80, 84, 86, 88, 98, &100) of the cluster to manage said unique identifier (see Fig.3, #70 and col.6, lines 46-50).

DEPENDENT:

As per claims 4, 26, and 51, Short further teaches wherein said automatically managing is performed by a distributed configuration manager of the cluster (see col.6, lines 46-50).

As per claims 20, 42, and 67, Short further teaches wherein said automatically managing comprises: determining whether said unique identifier is in agreement with other data; and taking action in response to the determining (see col.6, lines 46-65).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 5-19, 21-24, 27-41, 43-46, 48-49, 52-56, and 58-71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Short et al. (US 6178529 B1) in view of Trottier et al. (US 4851988 A).

INDEPENDENT:

As per claims 22, 44, and 69, Short teaches a method, a system (see title), and at least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method (see col.2, lines 40-42 and col.3, lines 28-32), of managing (see col.1, lines 11-13 and col.4, lines 36-37) identifiers of components of a distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-59), said method comprising: providing, by an operating system instance of said distributed computing environment (see col.2, lines 51-56), a unique identifier of a component of the distributed computing environment to a cluster of the distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-65); storing, by the cluster, the unique identifier in local storage and global storage (see col.2, lines 54-56); determining, in response to a cluster event, whether the unique identifiers are in agreement; and performing an action in response to the determining indicating one or more of the identifiers are not in agreement (see col.6, lines 46-65). Although Short teaches of local identifier (see col.9, lines 53-56), he does not explicitly teach of

a global identifier. Trottier teaches of a global identifier (see Fig.2 and col.2, lines 25-48). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Trottier within the system of Short by implementing a global identifier within the method, system, and program of managing identifiers in a distributed computing environment because Short teaches that "the invention may also be practiced in a distributed computing environments" (see col.2, lines 51-56) and further teaches of a "global update manager 100 operates to provide global update services that is used by other components within the Cluster Service 70" (see col.6, lines 18-20). Therefore one of ordinary skill in the art would employ the teachings of Trottier into the global update manager, if the system of Short were implemented in a distributed computing environment, because Trottier teaches that the global identifier, representing the global resource, can be used to determine whether the resource is local or remote (see Trottier: col.42, lines 56-61).

As per claims 24, 46, and 71, Short teaches a method, a system (see title), and at least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method (see col.2, lines 40-42 and col.3, lines 28-32), of managing (see col.1, lines 11-13 and col.4, lines 36-37) identifiers of components of a distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-59), said method comprising: identifying a component of the distributed computing environment (see col.2, lines 51-56) by a unique identifier (see col.9, lines 49-65); and automatically updating (see Fig.3, #70 and col.6, lines 46-50), by a cluster of the distributed computing environment, one or more of the unique identifier, to provide consistency among the unique identifier, in response to a cluster event (see col.6, lines 46-65). Although Short teaches of local identifier (see col.9, lines 53-56), he does not explicitly teach of a global identifier (see claims 22, 44, and 69).

As per claim 48, Short teaches a system (see title) of managing (see col.1, lines 11-13 and col.4, lines 36-37) identifiers of components of a distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-59), said system comprising: an operating system instance of said distributed computing environment (see col.2, lines 51-56) to provide a unique identifier of a component of the distributed computing environment to a cluster of the distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-65); local storage and global storage of the distributed computing environment to store the unique identifier (see col.2, lines 54-56); a distributed configuration manager (see Fig.3, #72, 74, 80, 84, 86, 88, 98, &100) of the cluster to determine, in response to a cluster event, whether the unique identifiers are in agreement, and to perform an action in response to the determining indicating one or more of the identifiers are not in agreement (see col.6, lines 46-65). Although Short teaches of local identifier (see col.9, lines 53-56), he does not explicitly teach of a global identifier (see claims 22, 44, and 69).

As per claim 49, Short teaches a system (see title) of managing (see col.1, lines 11-13 and col.4, lines 36-37) identifiers of components of a distributed computing environment (see col.9, lines 49-59), said system comprising: a component of the distributed computing environment (see col.2, lines 51-56) identified by a unique identifier (see col.9, lines 49-65); and a cluster of the distributed computing environment to automatically update (see Fig.3, #70 and col.6, lines 46-50) one or more of the unique identifier, to provide consistency among the unique identifier in response to a cluster event (see col.6, lines 46-65). Although Short teaches of local identifier (see col.9, lines 53-56), he does not explicitly teach of a global identifier (see claims 22, 44, and 69).

DEPENDENT:

As per claims 5, 27, and 52, Short further teaches wherein said automatically managing comprises updating a local identifier to reflect a change of the unique identifier (see col.5, lines 23-38

and col.6, lines 59-65). Although Short teaches of local identifier (see col.9, lines 53-56), he does not explicitly teach of a global identifier (see claims 22, 44, and 69 rejection above).

As per claims 6, 28, and 53, Short further teaches wherein said automatically managing comprises: determining, in response to an event, whether said unique identifier is consistent with at least one of a local identifier; and performing an action in response to the determining; (see col.6, lines 46-65). Although Short teaches of local identifier (see col.9, lines 53-56), he does not explicitly teach of a global identifier (see claims 22, 44, and 69 rejection above).

As per claim 7, 21, 29, 43, 54,and 68, Short further teaches wherein said event comprises a joining of said operating system instance to said cluster (see col.6, lines 46-50).

As per claims 8, 13, 30, 35, 55 and 60, Short further teaches wherein said determining comprises: comparing said unique identifier to said local identifier; and comparing said local identifier to said global identifier (see col.5, lines 23-38 and col.6, lines 18-20).

As per claims 9, 31, and 56, Short further teaches further teaches wherein said performing an action comprises allowing the event to proceed, in response to the unique identifier, the local identifier and the global identifier being consistent (see col.6, lines 61-65).

As per claims 10-12, 14-15, 32-34, 36-37, 57-59 and 61-62, Short further teaches wherein said performing an action comprises updating the local identifier to reflect that the operating system instance has been deleted from the cluster: in response to the unique identifier being equal to the local identifier, and the local identifier being unequal to the global identifier; in response to the unique identifier being unequal to the local identifier, and the local identifier being equal to the global identifier; and in response to the unique identifier being unequal to the local identifier, and the local identifier being unequal to the global identifier (see col.6, lines 59-65). If the teaching of Trottier were employed, it would be inherent that all identifiers would be updated whenever any of the identifiers

were inconsistent as such is known and employed in the art that comprises a table, tree, or a list of information used for processing by devices such as routers, databases, servers,... ect.

As per claims 16, 38, and 63, Short teaches of further comprising storing said unique identifier in local storage to provide the local identifier (see col.5, lines 23-31).

As per claims 17, 39, and 64, Short further teaches wherein said storing is performed in response to said operating system instance being defined to the cluster (see Fig.3 and col.6, lines 59-65).

As per claims 18, 40, and 65, Short teaches of further comprising storing said unique identifier in global storage to provide the global identifier (see col.5, lines 36-38 and col.6, lines 18-20).

As per claims 19, 41, and 66, Short further teaches wherein said storing is performed in response to said operating system instance being defined to the cluster (see claim 17 rejection above).

As per claims, Short further teaches wherein said other data comprises at least one of a local copy of the unique identifier and a global copy of the unique identifier (see col.2, lines 54-56).

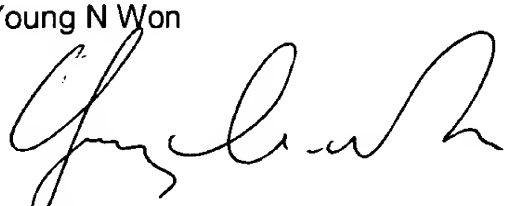
As per claims 23, 45, and 70, Short further teaches wherein said cluster event comprises a join of the operating system instance to the cluster.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Young N Won whose telephone number is 703-605-4241. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th: 8AM-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T Alam can be reached on 703-308-6662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Young N Won



September 25, 2003

HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER